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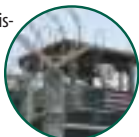
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THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

US TRANSFERS TWO LIBYANS TO SENEGAL FROM GITMO PRISON

Two Libyans held for years at the U.S. military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, have been flown to Senegal for resettlement, the Pentagon said on Monday, the latest move in President Barack Obama's final push to close the facility. The two men were the first of a group of about a dozen who are expected to be transferred in coming weeks to at least two countries that have agreed to take them, according to a U.S. official who spoke on condition of anonymity. With the latest departures, there are now 89 prisoners at the U.S. naval base in Guantanamo. **REUTERS**



OBAMA, NATO CHIEF DISCUSS FIGHT AGAINST ISLAMIC STATE



President Barack Obama and NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said on Monday they had discussed how NATO can help train and assist troops in Iraq, Jordan and elsewhere fighting Islamic State militants. "We are continuing to cooperate on an ongoing basis about operations potentially in areas like Libya where you have the beginnings of a government," Obama told reporters after meeting Stoltenberg in the Oval Office. **REUTERS**

CALIF. GOVERNOR SIGNS \$15-AN-HOUR MINIMUM WAGE INTO LAW

Gov. Jerry Brown on Monday signed into a law a bill raising California's minimum wage from \$10 to \$15 an hour by the year 2023, making the nation's most-populous state the first to boost pay to that level for the working poor. The move marks the culmination of a deal Brown brokered with labor leaders and state Democratic leaders and puts California, home to one of the world's biggest economies, at the forefront of U.S. states and cities that have moved to surpass the federal minimum wage, which has remained at \$7.25 an hour since 2009. "This is about creating a little tiny bit of balance in a system that every day becomes more unbalanced," Brown said before signing the legislation. **REUTERS**



Last year's theme for the Immigrant Youth Empowerment Conference was "Redefining Success" and organizers focused on what success looks like for undocumented and immigrant students. **JOHN CHENG**

Empowering youth, papers or no papers

The Immigrant Youth Empowerment Conference offers workshops for undocumented youth about the college process and alternatives to college.

ANGY ALTAMIRANO
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An annual conference is looking to show immigrant youth and their families in New York City that despite their immigration status — they have a voice and future.

The Immigrant Youth Empowerment Conference is set to take place on April 23 at the CUNY School of Law, located at 2 Court Square in Long Island City.

The all-day conference — which is in its third year in New York City — aims to offer resources and tools to the youth and their families to allow them to be empowered and organize within their individual communities.

"It's a great place, great community," said Angy Rivera, one of the conference's organizers who was also formerly un-

documented for 19 years. "These conferences and spaces for undocumented students in particular don't really exist that much."

During the conference, participants will be able to meet with high school and college students, community organizers, lawyers and professional development leaders. The event will include workshops for undocumented youth to discuss the college process — including how to pay for college — and also alternatives to college.

The conference will also offer participants creative ideas on how they can come together with their communities through academic spaces or on the street.

"Some of them don't know that these exist and they have a lot of thoughts and fear that they are alone," Rivera said.

Each year the conference has a theme, which most classes and discussions focus on through

the day. For example, last year's theme was "Redefining Success" and focus was put on what success looks like for undocumented and immigrant students.

This year's theme is "Rooted in Liberation" through which organizers and volunteers will discuss the history of migration, what caused people to migrate and also focus on the history of migration policies and anti-immigrant laws.

Through incorporating the theme, the conference will also analyze the history of organizing and go through how the immigrant community as a whole has become a part of the legacy of community work.

"When we think about the changes that have happened now, we think these things just popped out of nowhere," Rivera said. "The reality is it has been years of community organizing."

Organizers, mostly

"I definitely hope that young people realize that there is a community out here that supports them and is fighting with them."

Rivera

If you go

Immigrant Youth Empowerment Conference

8 a.m. to 6 p.m., April 23
CUNY School of Law, 2 Court Square, Long Island City
For information or to register, visit
lyeconnyc.wix.com/iyecon

made up of volunteers, are also currently fundraising for the expenses of the conference. The donations will go to various funds of the conference including food, MetroCards for students and more.

Rivera added that although the conference is geared toward immigrant and undocumented youth, organizers hope families and educators can also attend.

And as for the youth looking to attend, Rivera said it will serve as a great space for them to feel like they belong and also to get to know there is a community that has their backs.

"It would be amazing for parents to come and also find their voices," she said. "I definitely hope that young people realize that there is a community out here that supports them and is fighting with them."

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Officials call for changes to increase voter turnout

In 2013, just 26 percent of registered voters in the city went to the polls during the mayoral general election — the lowest rate recorded.



ANGY ALTAMIRANO
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With New York's first presidential primary just two weeks away — and voter turnout having reached an all-time low during the last election — officials are calling for changes to ensure New Yorkers get out to cast their votes.

City Comptroller Scott Stringer released a report over the weekend analyzing voting data over the last 60 years, while also presenting 16 ideas — drawn up by elected officials, advocates and community leaders — aimed at increasing voter access, encouraging turnout and also improving how elections are managed.

According to Stringer, only one in four registered voters in New York City participated in the 2014 midterm general election.

"As New Yorkers head



People vote in Park Slope. GETTY IMAGES

to the polls to elect our next president, it's important to remember that voting is not only a fundamental right — it is the most important tool we have to ensure accountability in our democracy," Stringer said.

Based on the report — titled "Barriers to the Ballot" — the city's voting rates in presidential, midterm/statewide and mayoral elections have reached historic lows.

During the 2008 presidential election, 61 per-

cent of registered voters voted — reportedly the lowest ration in any major American city — and four years later, during the 2012 election, 58 percent showed up to vote in the general election — the lowest rate since 1996 and second lowest on record.

In 2013, according to the report, only 26 percent of registered voters in the city went to vote during the mayoral general election — the lowest rate recorded.

A year later during the

2014 gubernatorial and midterm elections, 25 percent of registered voters filled out a ballot. During that year, New York State's turnout was ranked 48th of all 50 states.

"Turnout in recent elections in New York has been abysmal and yet our laws often prevent rather than encourage people from participating," Stringer said. "We need to make it easier for every New Yorker to register and vote."

In the report, the

"Turnout in recent elections in New York has been abysmal and yet our laws often prevent rather than encourage people from participating."

Stringer

comptroller also presents 16 ideas for improving elections and increasing voter participation throughout the city. The improvements center on voter registration, access to the polls, Election Day operations, and election administration.

Some of the recommendation for voter registration include allowing pre-registration for 16- and 17-year-olds which will then become active when they turn 18, and allowing voters to register on Election Day.

In regard to access to the polls, ideas include ensuring absentee ballots are accessible to all voters — including those with vision impairments; and looking into a vote-by-mail system. For improving operations on Election Day, officials recommended instructing the City Board of Elections to notify New Yorkers

about upcoming elections more than once a year using methods such as email and text messages; and passing the Voter Friendly Ballot Act — which calls for ballots that are easier to understand.

For election administration, recommendations included increasing access for limited English proficiency New Yorkers through publishing voting materials in different languages and making sure the "Language Line" telephone service is available at poll sites.

"At a time when states across the country are taking steps to disenfranchise voters, New York should lead the fight to ensure equal access to the ballot box," Stringer said. "Everyone deserves to have their voice heard. These reforms will remove barriers to voting and boost turnout in the nation's largest City."

Cops: Man followed, touched elderly woman in Queens

The NYPD has released surveillance video of a man they say forcibly touched a 76-year-old woman as she entered her apartment building early Sunday morning.

On April 3 at about 8:40 a.m. the suspect followed the victim into her apartment building near 44th Street and 25th Avenue in Astoria, according to police.

While in the building's lobby he placed his hand on her leg and when the victim yelled out for him to stop, the suspect ran out of the building and fled westbound on 44th Street, cops said.

Police describe the suspect as a white or Hispanic man, between 30 to 40 years old, 5 feet 10 inches to 6 feet

tall, and between 180 to 200 pounds. He was last seen wearing a black hooded sweat, black jacket, blue jeans and black sneakers.

Anyone with information in regard to this incident is asked to call the NYPD's Crime Stoppers Hotline at 1-800-577-TIPS (8477) or for Spanish, 1-888-57-PISTA (74782).



The suspect PROVIDED

The public can also submit their tips by logging onto the Crime Stoppers website or by texting their tips to 274637 (CRIMES) then enter TIP577.

ANGY ALTAMIRANO

BRIEF

Two five-alarm fires burn Brooklyn and Queens commercial buildings

A pair of five-alarm blazes Sunday night and Monday morning has left extensive damage to two New York City commercial structures.

The first fire, which broke out around 3:45 p.m. on Sunday at a laundromat at 13th Street and 40th Avenue in Long Island City, Queens, was initially reported as a two-alarm blaze but quickly escalated by the evening, CBS2 reported.

Called a "prolonged operation" by officials, the fire eventually spread to a furniture store, CBS2 added, also stating that two firefighters suffered minor injuries

in the blaze, but no civilians were injured.

At 11 p.m., another five-alarm fire broke out at a commercial building, ABC7 reported. A one-story Parkside Avenue bakery and commercial kitchen in Prospect Lefferts Gardens, Brooklyn, was the scene of an overnight fire that took 250 firefighters to control.

At one point, firefighters withdrew everyone from inside the building, instead deciding to fight the fire from overhead, according to ABC7.

Before the fire was under control Monday morning, one firefighter had been injured and was taken to Kings County Hospital, NBC4 reported. JASON NUCKOLLS

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(SMILE)

BRIEFS

Prosecutors save man who tried to hang himself outside Queens Borough Hall: DA

Three Queens prosecutors went beyond the call of duty last week when they saved a man who was attempting to kill himself, according to the Queens district attorney's office.

On April 1 just before 1 p.m. Assistant District Attorney Andrea M. Mauro was exiting Queens Borough Hall, located in Kew Gardens, when she saw a man in his late 50s or early 60s tying one end of a rope to a tree and the other end around his neck, authorities said.

Mauro, joined by Assistant District Attorneys Jason S. Trager and Gabriel Mendoza, grabbed the man as the rope began to tighten.

As Trager untied the rope from the tree, according to Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown, Mendoza untied the other end from the man's neck.

"The man collapsed on the ground crying, gasping for air," Trager said. "We are relieved that we were able to get him down from the tree in time. It was very sad and shocking."

The man was taken by police to a local hospital for observation and treatment.

"The assistant district attorneys in this office do a tremendous job each day of seeking justice for victims of crimes, but these three prosecutors went above and beyond the call of duty by stepping in to save a man who was obviously distraught and in desperate need," Brown said. "I am extremely proud of their actions." **ANGY ALTAMIRANO**



ASPCA will celebrate 150 years with PAWS Parade

The parade will feature pet celebrity Marnie the Dog and hundreds of members from local shelters and rescue organizations.



Wagging tails and wet noses will take over the streets of Manhattan this weekend as the ASPCA celebrates 150 years of protecting animals — while hoping to find homes for a few hundred four-legged New Yorkers.

The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is celebrating its 150th anniversary April 10 by honoring its history and celebrating local groups that work to protect "the city's most vulnerable residents."

The ASPCA was founded in New York City by Henry Bergh in 1866 and is considered the first and



ALL IMAGES ASPCA EXCEPT MARNIE THE DOG, TOP RIGHT

oldest animal welfare organization in the country.

"The ASPCA's 150th anniversary honors many New York City groups — including the Animal Care Centers of New York, NYPD, Alliance for NYC's Animals and various rescue organizations — carrying on Henry Bergh's vision of a city that values and protects its vulnerable animals," said Matt Bershadker, ASPCA president and CEO. "We look forward to seeing many

dog and cat lovers, animal advocates and prospective adopters at the NYC Paws Parade and Adoptapalooza events."

Actress and singer Bernadette Peters, dogs in tow, will be grand marshal of the first NYC Paws Parade. Pet celebs Marnie the Dog — who has 1.9 million Instagram followers — and Pip, a Maltese-Shih Tzu mix who was rescued after being tossed out a car in Staten Island, will also be there.

Other marchers include members from the ASPCA, Mayor's Alliance for NYC's Animals, Animal Care Centers of NYC, rescue vehicles and more. Also expected are members of the NYPD Mounted and Canine Units; over 75 animal cruelty officer liaisons; FDNY mascots Hot Dog and Siren; and other four-legged New Yorkers.

At the end of the parade route in Union Square, the Mayor's Alliance for NYC's Animals and the Petco Foundation will host Adoptapalooza, where more than 300 puppies, kittens, dogs, cats and rabbits — all spayed, neutered and vaccinated — will be waiting to find their forever families. Donations of linens and toys for shelter animals will also be accepted by Rock & Rawhide. Adoption fees during will be waived, covered by Animal Planet.

"The Alliance is thrilled to be part of the first-ever NYC Paws Parade," said Jane Hoffman, president

If you go

Paws Parade

11 a.m., Madison Square Park, will head down Broadway to Union Square Adoptapalooza event at end of parade

Adoptapalooza Brooklyn

11 a.m. to 4 p.m., House of Vans, 25 Franklin St.

Adoptable pets, food and music and adoption fees waived. Attendees will also have the chance to meet pet celebrities Marnie the Dog, Mervin the Chihuahua, Chloe Kardoggian and Ella Bean the Dog. A special exhibit will also showcase items from ASPCA history including a horse ambulance and historical photos.

of the Mayor's Alliance for NYC's Animals. "We look forward to our continued partnership with the ASPCA to ensure the four-legged residents of this city will always have a voice."

Suspects beat man unconscious during Queens robbery: NYPD



Surveillance photos of the suspects PROVIDED

Police are looking for a group of men and women they say violently attacked a man in Queens last week, knocking him unconscious as they robbed him.

On March 31 at about 9:48 p.m., near Putnam and Seneca avenues in Ridgewood, the suspects — described as two men and two women — punched and kicked the 52-year-old victim in the face and head numerous times, according to authorities.

They then went

through his pockets and took his property, cops said.

The victim was knocked to the ground unconscious and suffered many injuries to his head, according to police. He was taken to Elmhurst General Hospital in critical but stable condition.

Police described all the suspects — who were caught on surveillance video — as Hispanic and between 20 and 25 years old.

Authorities said the first man is 5 feet 8, with

a tattoo on his right forearm, last seen wearing a light-colored hooded jacket, light-colored pants and a light-colored T-shirt. The first woman is 5 feet 5, has a tattoo on her left forearm and was last seen wearing a dark-colored dress and a white jacket.

The second man was last seen wearing a black and blue baseball cap, a black hooded sweater, beige pants and dark-colored sneakers, police said. The second woman had long blond hair and was last seen wearing

a black knit cap, black jacket, black T-shirt, black sweatpants, and black and white sneakers.

Anyone with information in regards to this incident is asked to call the NYPD's Crime Stoppers Hotline at 1-800-577-TIPS (8477) or for Spanish, 1-888-57-PISTA (74782).

The public can also submit their tips by logging onto the Crime Stoppers website or by texting their tips to 274637 (CRIMES) then enter TIP577.

ANGY ALTAMIRANO

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BRIEFS

Report: Fatal Greenwood Heights, Brooklyn, hit-and-run leaves streets closed, suspect at large

A driver struck and killed a pedestrian in a Brooklyn incident that has left Fourth Avenue closed in both directions.

Around 9:30 a.m. on Monday, a motorist struck a pedestrian on Fourth Avenue in the Greenwood Heights neighborhood, ABC7 reported.

After striking the victim, the driver allegedly fled the scene on foot, and police were looking for him, according to ABC7, which added that authorities said he ran east on Fourth Avenue.

Authorities have closed Fourth Avenue in both directions as they continue to investigate, ABC7 added.

JASON NUCKOLLS

New website based in New York City helps catch illegal subletters

A new website aims to assist property owners in uncovering illegal subletting offers for their properties on sites like Airbnb and Craigslist.

Sublet Spy, based in New York City, claims to use the latest in military intelligence and online technology to analyze billions of data points to reveal potential sublet advertisements on a particular property, the new website stated.

"I started to see all these reports on the news, that there was all these illegal hotels [on Airbnb]," Sublet Spy's founder, Ari Teman, said in an exclusive New York Daily News report. "It's knowingly enabling criminal activity."

Teman himself had his apartment wrecked two years ago after he put it on Airbnb only to find that a party had taken place, resulting in extensive damage, the Daily News added.

Teman's new site charges landlords a monthly rate per unit to monitor websites for mentions of specific properties by using a software he created that finds clues to addresses using data such as pictures and posted reviews, according to the Daily News.

Sublet Spy, which advertises that it has teams in New York, Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., and several international locales, reported that its staff is a mixture of intelligence professionals from the Israeli Defence Forces, Wall Street firms and academia.

JASON NUCKOLLS

ISTOCK



People cheer as Hillary Clinton joins Gov. Andrew Cuomo at a rally announcing New York's new minimum wage law. GETTY IMAGES

Governor signs \$15 min. wage into law

Parts of state outside NYC and commuter counties to get \$12.50 minimum wage, with 2020 deadline.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo on Monday signed into law a minimum wage increase that takes a two-tier approach, setting a higher \$15 per hour minimum for New York City and its environs and a lower legal minimum for less-costly areas.

Cuomo held a rally celebrating the event with Hillary Clinton, who is campaigning for the Democratic presidential nomination in her home state before its April 19 primary. Democrats have rallied behind the \$15 mini-

Family leave

In addition to the minimum wage law, Cuomo also signed a bill granting 12-week paid family leave that will phase in by 2021.

mum wage ahead of the presidential election in November.

"This new economy is not a fair economy for the middle class and the working families of this country," Cuomo said at the signing in a New York City convention center. "They feel that the American dream is slipping away."

Across the country

States and cities have moved to surpass the federal minimum wage, which has remained

at \$7.25 an hour since 2009.

California Governor Jerry Brown on Monday also signed into law a plan to raise the minimum wage from \$10 to \$15 an hour by the year 2023, making the nation's most-populous state among the first to boost pay to that level for the working poor.

Clinton's Democratic opponent for the nomination, U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders, issued a statement from the campaign trail in Wisconsin praising both New York and California for pushing through the legislation.

How the New York law works

In New York, the minimum wage rises to \$15 per hour from its current \$9 by the end of 2018 for most busi-

"This new economy is not a fair economy for the middle class and the working families of this country."

Cuomo

nesses in New York City. Commuter counties of Nassau, Suffolk and Westchester will reach \$15 by the end of 2021, while the rest of the state will reach \$12.50 by the end of 2020.

The two-tier approach was a compromise deal reached with the state's Republican lawmakers, who said an increase to \$15 in the poorer upstate areas in the north of the state would be unfair to business owners.

After 2020 the \$12.50 minimum wage update has the potential to rise by an amount determined by the state labor

commissioner and the director of the budget. Any increase would be indexed to inflation and wage growth.

New York's law also carves out a slow-lane for New York City business with up to 10 employees, giving them four years instead of three to implement \$15 per hour.

The law also contains a "safety valve." From 2019, state budget officials will look at the effects of the wage increases on regional economies and determine whether they should continue or be suspended. REUTERS

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BRIEF

US issues new rules to curb corporate tax inversion deals

The U.S. Treasury Department on Monday took new steps to curb tax-avoiding "inversion" deals in which a U.S. company reincorporates overseas following the purchase of a foreign company, its latest attempt to dissuade a practice that slashes federal tax collection.

Shares of Dublin-based Allergan, which has agreed to be bought by Pfizer in the biggest

inversion deal ever, slumped 19 percent in after-market trading after the Treasury news broke.

Under the new rules, there will be a three-year limit on foreign companies bulking up on U.S. assets to avoid ownership requirements for a later inversion deal, Treasury said in a statement.

In an inversion, a U.S. company typically buys a smaller foreign rival and reincorporates to the rival's home country, which moves the company's tax domi-

cile, though core management usually stays in the United States.

Treasury, which had last introduced new rules in November to curb inversions, also is proposing tackling the practice of post-inversion earnings stripping with new limits on related-party debt for U.S. subsidiaries.

Earnings stripping covers a range of financial dealings that shrink the taxable U.S. profits of multinationals, including those that have moved their tax domi-

ciles abroad in inversion deals.

Treasury Secretary Jack Lew said the actions would "further rein in" inversions, but said that only legislation in Congress could prevent such deals.

Such tax avoidance schemes have long been a thorn in Treasury's side. The proposed \$150 billion deal between Pfizer and Allergan, which would create the world's largest drugmaker, prompted renewed scrutiny.

REUTERS

Police shootings in Chicago have dropped in past year



Police stand guard in front of a mall on Michigan Avenue during a demonstration in Chicago. GETTY IMAGES

Chicago police shot people in four incidents in the first three months of 2016, marking a drop in police shootings in the second-largest U.S. city at a time of national outcry over police use of lethal force.

From 2008 to 2014, there were an average of 12 incidents per quarter in which Chicago officers shot someone, according to data from the Independent Police Review Authority, an oversight body. The figures include both fatal and non-fatal shootings, and an incident sometimes includes more than one person hit by a bullet.

That quarterly average fell to seven last year.

Chicago was rocked by protests over police shootings last year after the city was forced by a judge to release a video of a white officer, Jason Van Dyke, shooting a 17-year-old black youth, Laquan McDonald, who was apparently walking away from police when he was shot 16 times.

In the wake of the protests, Mayor Rahm Emanuel fired his police chief and the Justice Department started an investigation of the Chicago Police Department to see whether there was a pattern of excessive use of lethal force.

More than 74 percent of people shot by the police between 2008 and 2015 in Chicago were African-American, while the population of the

city is about one-third black.

According to a Reuters review of police shooting data from Chicago, New York, Houston and Los Angeles in the years from 2007 to 2014, Chicago consistently had more police shootings than the other biggest cities in the country.

Chicago police officers interviewed by Reuters have said they are policing less aggressively due to low morale.

The turmoil within the department, now led by a new interim chief appointed by Emanuel from its ranks, comes at a time when some violent crimes are surging in the city.

Nirej Sekhon, a professor of criminal law at Georgia State University College of Law who has studied Chicago police shootings, said it is too early to say what could be behind the drop in shootings.

In his study of police shootings in the city from 2007-2014 he claimed there may be a connection between such incidents and practices such as "stop and frisk," a policing strategy that has been controversial because of racial profiling.

"Maybe some of the more aggressive forms of policing that occur in minority communities have eased somewhat and that might have to do with the drop in police shootings," he said.

REUTERS

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Prosecutors in Gray case seek testimony from another officer

The motion, filed in Baltimore City Circuit Court, asks a judge to compel officer Garrett Miller to testify at the trial of officer Edward Nero, set to start on May 10.

Maryland prosecutors want to force a second police officer charged in the death of a black detainee to testify against another officer, a court filing made available on Monday said.

The order is needed since officer Garrett Miller is likely to refuse to take the stand because of his right against self-incrimination, said the motion, which was filed on Thursday.

Miller and Edward Nero arrested Freddie Gray in April 2015 when he fled unprovoked, and Gray died from a neck injury suffered in police custody. His death triggered protests and riot-



Garrett Miller
BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT HANDOUT



Edward Nero

ing and stoked a U.S. debate on police treatment of minorities.

Miller and Nero are among six officers facing trial. Both have pleaded not guilty to charges of second-degree assault, reckless endangerment and misconduct.

The motion comes after legal wrangling over prosecutors' efforts to force officer William Porter to testify under limited immunity against the other officers while his own charges

were pending. Porter's manslaughter trial ended in a hung jury in December.

Maryland's highest court ruled last month that Porter had to testify. Forcing testimony in a co-defendant's trial was seen as unprecedented in Maryland.

Defense lawyers have said making Porter testify would allow prosecutors to compel other officers to take the witness stand.

REUTERS

Officials: US behind strike that killed Nusra Front leader

The United States has carried out an airstrike in Syria that killed a prominent leader of al Qaeda offshoot Nusra Front, Abu Firas al-Suri, officials told Reuters on Monday.

Islamist rebel sources said Abu Firas, who was a former Syrian army officer discharged in the late 1970s because of his Islamist leanings, was a founding member of the militant group and had fought in Afghanistan in the 1980s.

He was a senior member of Nusra Front's policy-making Shura Council.

A Pentagon spokesman said an airstrike on Sunday hit a meeting of high-level al Qaeda officials in northwest Syria at which Abu Firas was present. The spokesman, Peter Cook, said the

United States was still confirming whether Abu Firas had been killed.

The United States has targeted Nusra Front in the past, although the bulk of the U.S. military's firepower in Syria has been directed at Islamic State, which occupies parts of Syria and Iraq.

Abu Firas was a fervent opponent of Islamic State's style and was ideologically at odds with the militant group.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which tracks violence in the country, had said he was killed in a suspected Syrian or Russian air raid on a village northwest of the city of Idlib in northwestern Syria on Sunday.

But rebel sources said the attack appeared to have the hallmarks of a U.S. drone strike.

The U.S. officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity, declined to offer details on the strike itself, including whether it was carried out by manned or unmanned aircraft.

They also did not say whether the Nusra Front leader was specifically targeted.

From Madaya, near Damascus, Abu Firas worked with al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden in galvanizing support among Pakistani supporters of the fundamentalist Taliban movement in Afghanistan several decades ago, the rebel sources said.

"May God accept him as a martyr, he was a commanding figure. This was engineered by the Crusader axis," said one of the sources.

REUTERS

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New Jersey sues Atlantic City over school money

Gov. Christie is seeking to stop the city from making its \$3.2 million payroll on Friday, he said in a televised press conference.



The Atlantic City municipality is due to run out of funds on April 8 and is facing insolvency and the possibility of bankruptcy. GETTY IMAGES

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie's administration sued cash-strapped gambling hub Atlantic City on Monday, seeking to freeze city spending until it repays the millions of dollars it owes to its school district.

In the civil action, State Education Commissioner David Hespe said Atlantic City owed the district \$82 million of tax revenues collected for the school year. The city already paid \$48 million of that, but must still remit the remaining \$34 million by July 15, court documents showed.

That might be impossible. As of April 1, the city had only \$8 million of cash available for operations. Second-quarter tax collections that begin in May will not provide enough to fund required disbursements, the lawsuit said.

The state sued "to protect the property tax collections that rightfully belong to the Atlantic City School District and the children and families they serve," Christie said.

In New Jersey, cities

must act as collection agents by collecting property taxes on behalf of school districts and transmitting the money to them.

The lawsuit is the latest in Christie's high-stakes game of chicken against city officials and some lawmakers over whether to take over the city's operations to avoid bankruptcy.

Christie and state Senate leaders said city officials have not done enough to stop the bleeding. They supported a legislative package that links a full state takeover with one that would provide immediate revenue for the city.

The nearly insolvent city has been under state oversight since 2011. Mayor Don Guardian threatened to close City Hall for three weeks beginning on Friday afternoon because it will not have enough

money to pay workers after that.

Christie twice vetoed — even after winning changes he sought — legislation aimed at stabilizing the city's tax base by letting casinos make fixed payments in lieu of property taxes. The city's state-approved budget relied on those revenues.

In February, Christie pinned that legislation to the takeover measure, which Guardian initially supported but later called a "fascist dictatorship."

The package is now stalled in the state Assembly, where Speaker Vincent Prieto has refused to bring it to a vote because he says its goal is to dismantle collective bargaining agreements.

On Monday, Moody's Investors Service downgraded the city deeper into junk territory, to Caa3.

REUTERS

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A Helping Hand: NYC Agency Provides Assistance to Family Caregivers

WRITTEN BY
A.P. Singer

Today, it's estimated that more than 250,000 New Yorkers are living with Alzheimer's disease and other related dementias. More than half continue to live at home, most with a friend or family member providing care. Yet even with the rising rates and awareness of the condition, many family caregivers struggle in finding information, access to services and direct support.

Caring for a loved one is an incredible experience -- both burdensome and rewarding -- but many caregivers fail to recognize their own needs or seek help, or often feel guilty in doing so.

Enter PSS, a multi-service agency that provides services and caregiver support for older

New Yorkers. The agency runs the Circle of Care program, a comprehensive program for caregivers.

Circle of Care is among the recipients of Gov. Andrew Cuomo's \$67.5 million Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Initiative. The PSS program has been awarded \$7.5 million to expand PSS's leading services to all five boroughs over the next five years.

With the governor's allocation, the agency had added 15 full-time staff devoted specifically to helping families struggling to care for someone with Alzheimer's disease or other forms of dementia. And by expanding its bilingual programming throughout all five boroughs, PSS is in a position to better understand and address the specific needs of underserved populations.

"The Circle of Care program for Alzheimer's patients is designed to reach more than 2,500 caregivers each year with a safety

net of services including Circle of Care consultants at Caregiving Stations conveniently located throughout the city," PSS Executive Director Rimas Jasins said.

Care Consultants connect caregivers to the services that they need and provide them with information and resources, as many caregivers aren't aware of the resources and services available to them or how to access them.

"What people often forget about Alzheimer's disease, is that it not only devastates the person who has been diagnosed with it but it also devastates anyone who has known the person diagnosed," said Peter Pagano, one of the PSS Circle of Care Directors, on the importance of the agency's newly expanded services.

Circle of Care's Caregiver Consultant Hannah Bellinger adds: "Caregivers are both relieved and surprised to hear that PSS Circle of Care

is truly a caregiver support program. They expect agencies to provide support to their loved ones and so are surprised that we are here to relieve their own stress and attend to their own needs."

Among its continuum of services, Circle of Care provides in-person, online and by-phone support groups; training and online resources on caring for those with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia; referrals for temporary respite; and coordination of supplemental services, like transportation and health supplies.

"It's essential that people recognize the warning signs of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias," said Katherine Martinez, PSS Deputy Director. These signs include difficulty completing familiar tasks, failing to find the right words, or dramatic changes in mood or withdrawing from social activities.

"It's even more essential that they realize that help is



Caring for a loved one is incredibly rewarding - but many family and informal caregivers don't know the help that they need is there.

out there -- and that they ask for it," Martinez added.

Carole McFarlane is a former caregiver who received support from the Circle of Care program while caring for her mother, who had dementia. Now, McFarlane is a PSS volunteer.

"I needed help and didn't know where to turn when I heard about PSS," McFarlane said. "Thanks to Circle of Care, I could pick up the

phone anytime I needed to talk. PSS was always there for me in a timely manner."

Circle of Care can be reached through their toll-free bilingual hotline

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World figures deny any wrongdoing as 'Panama Papers' reveal offshore wealth

Panamanian law firm set up more than 240,000 companies for clients around the globe to stash cash tax free, claims victimhood in document leak.

Governments across the world began investigating possible financial wrongdoing by the rich and powerful on Monday after a leak of four decades of documents from a Panamanian law firm that special-

ized in setting up offshore companies.

While holding money in offshore companies is not illegal, journalists who received the leaked documents said they could provide evidence of wealth hidden for tax evasion, money laundering, sanctions busting, drug deals or other crimes.

The law firm, Mossack Fonseca, which says it has set up more than 240,000 offshore companies for clients around the globe, denied any wrongdoing and called itself the victim of a campaign against privacy.

The Kremlin said the documents contained "nothing concrete and nothing new" while a spokesman for British Prime Minister David Cameron said his late father's reported links to an offshore company were a "private matter."

Financial prosecutors in France announced the opening of a preliminary investigation for aggravated tax fraud.

Germany would also "pick up the ball" in the case, a Finance Ministry spokesman said on Monday. Financial market watchdog Bafin is looking into the matter, said a source close to the regulator, which reports to the ministry.

Australia, Austria, Sweden and the Netherlands were among other countries which said they had begun investigating the allegations based on more than 11.5 million docu-



President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko GETTY IMAGES

"I believe I might be the first top official in Ukraine who treats declaring of assets, paying taxes, conflict of interest issues seriously."

Poroshenko tweeted

ments. Banks came under the spotlight over allegations that they helped clients hide their wealth offshore.

A White House spokesman said that while he had no specific comment on the leaked papers, "greater transparency allows us to root out corruption."

The documents, covering a period from 1977 until last December, were leaked to more than 100 news organizations around the world, cooper-

ating with the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ), a Washington, D.C.-based network.

Government leaders around the world responded to the leaks on Monday with denials or declining comment.

Pakistan denied any wrongdoing by the family of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif after his daughter and son were linked to offshore companies.

Ukrainian President

Petro Poroshenko defended his commitment to transparency after lawmakers called for an investigation into allegations in the documents that he had used an offshore firm to avoid tax. Poroshenko purportedly moved his confectionery business, Roshen, to the British Virgin Islands in August 2014 as fighting between Ukraine and pro-Russian separatists peaked. **REUTERS**



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RACE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE



Clinton, Sanders promise to include Latinos in cabinet

Latinos and African-Americans have emerged as key voting blocs in the Democratic race for the White House nomination so far, and are likely to play a large role in New York and California.

Democratic presidential hopefuls Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders vowed to nominate Latinos into key cabinet posts in their administrations if elected, according to their answers to a questionnaire organized by the nation's largest Latino coalition.

The 20-question sur-

vey was submitted by the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda to all U.S. presidential candidates on Feb. 25, but received responses only from the two Democratic contenders and none from the Republicans, according to the results reviewed by Reuters.

"From special assistants to cabinet members, Latinos will play a key role in helping to shape my policy priorities and be effectively represented in our agencies," former Secretary of State and Democratic front-runner Clinton wrote.

Vermont Sen. Sanders promised to make his administration "reflect the diverse make-up of the country ... I can think of no place more vital for such diversity than in the



Attendees wait in line prior to a rally for Democratic Presidential Candidate Sen. Bernie Sanders in the Bronx borough of New York City. GETTY IMAGES

cabinet and the Senior Executive Service of the President of the United States of America."

President Barack Obama has nominated a number of Latinos to cabinet position during his time in office, two of whom are currently serving: Secretary of Labor Thomas Perez and Secre-

tary of Housing and Urban Development Julian Castro.

Both Clinton and Sanders have already promised comprehensive immigration reform, appealing to Hispanic voters ahead of presidential nominating contests in minority-heavy states.

REUTERS

Trump hunts for votes in Wisconsin

Donald Trump tried to put a difficult week behind him and rally his supporters on Monday ahead of a crucial Republican presidential contest in Wisconsin, where he faced the unfamiliar position of underdog.

Polls show the Republican front-runner trails Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas in the Midwestern state, where a loss on Tuesday could dent the Trump's aura of inevitability and make it harder for him to win the 1,237 delegates needed for the party's nomination for the Nov. 8 election.

But Trump told voters at a morning rally in La Crosse, Wisconsin, they could propel him toward the nomination by delivering a surprise victory for him over Cruz.

"If we do well here,

folks, it's over," Trump said. "If we don't win here, it's not over, but wouldn't you like to take the credit in Wisconsin for ending it?"

Trump said an array of forces were aligned against him in Wisconsin, including the state's governor, Scott Walker, who has backed Cruz, and a "very hostile media." He also said it was "unfair" that rival John Kasich, the governor of Ohio, refused to get out of the race despite trailing Trump and Cruz badly.

"Your vote is going to be very important tomorrow because the world is watching Wisconsin," Trump told supporters. "They're seeing if this momentum from this incredible movement is going to be slowed down."

REUTERS

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Taylor Swift's acceptance speech turns some heads

So there's Taylor Swift, accepting her second of two iHeartRadio awards at the appropriately named iHeart Radio Awards, when she casually works in a thank you to her boyfriend, Adam. Wait, what? Isn't Swift dating mega-DJ Calvin Harris, you ask? Well, before you freak out, let's put those fears to rest.

"For the first time, I had the most amazing person to come home to when the spotlight went out and when the crowds were all gone," Swift said while accepting the award for Best Tour, which is apparently a thing. "So I want to thank my boyfriend, Adam, for that."

Don't worry, this wasn't her crafty and melodramatic way to announce the end of one relationship and the start of a whole new one. No, see: Mr. Harris' real name is actually Adam Wiles. Which, when you think about it, is just as good of a DJ name as Calvin Harris.



ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

the word

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Drew Barrymore speaks out on split



Most celebrities don't grant interviews so soon after announcing they're getting a divorce — heck, it took Jennifer Garner nearly nine months to talk to

Vanity Fair about her split from Ben Affleck — but then most celebrities don't have a line of rosé from their personal winery to promote, do they?

While shilling for the latest variant from Barrymore Wines, Drew Barrymore talked to PopSugar about the process of coming to the decision to end her third marriage after less than four

years.

"I had a really hard time a couple of months ago and kind of knew life was heading in a new direction," she says. "I called someone that I really trust, respect and believe in, because he has always been the conductor of grace. I said, 'What's your advice?' And he said, 'You put one foot in front of the other.' I hung up the phone and I thought, 'That is why I call this person.' It's not only succinct, but it's almost physically productive and life-choice productive. It's just great advice. It's a kind of way in which to live, and I want to be like him. I want to be like that. I want to put one foot in front of the other."

It's a path that apparently leads to the lawyer's office.

Gwyneth Paltrow takes her oversharing to the Times



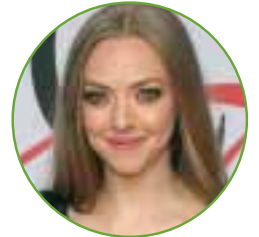
Apparently not enough of us are reading Goop, because no less than The New York Times ran a piece that's just Gwyneth Paltrow talking about what sorts of beauty and health products she uses. Don't you get it, America? She's trying

to help. But at least it's a great opportunity to remind everyone that she once voluntarily got stung by bees on purpose as a form of medical treatment. No, seriously. "I'm open to anything. I've been stung by bees," she says. "It's a thousands-of-years-old treatment

called apitherapy. People use it to get rid of inflammation and scarring. It's actually pretty incredible if you research it. But, man, it's painful. I haven't done cryotherapy yet, but I do want to try that." I smell a new Goop post coming, guys.



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Mike Epps clowns with Mike Tyson

The comedian sings the joys of collaboration on his new "Purge" parody, "Meet the Blacks."



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Mike Epps is already something of a comedy icon — just ask him — but he's somehow never had a starring role in his own film. That ends now with "Meet the Blacks," a comedy that spoofs "The Purge" as well as racial and socioeconomic tensions. But Epps isn't too worried about any potential litigation from those "Purge" folks.

Did you check with the people behind "The Purge" to make sure this is OK?

It's just a spoof, you know? We're not using anything from "The Purge." It's just a spoof, so I don't think we're going to have any issues with the filmmakers of "The Purge" being upset.

How was it getting Mike Tyson to play along?

You know, Mike Tyson is a team player. One thing about Mike Tyson: He loves film, he loves to be funny. It was cool. Mike is a friend of mine, so I think that had a lot



Mike Tyson scares Mike Epps in the "Purge" parody "Meet the Blacks." HIDDEN EMPIRE FILM GROUP

to do with it as well. His name was Clown in the movie, so he loved it. He kept flipping his [wig] back like he was a woman and all kinds of s—. It is a new look for him.

In general, how do you go about securing those cameos you have in the film?

Generally, I think as a comedian, as an actor, when we come together and you get a chance to

work with all of these different types of comedians, then you really get to see the work. You get to see how colorful it is, and I think that gets people excited. When you tell Charlie Murphy that you've got Mike Tyson in the movie with all these comedians, he gets excited about that. And the script was good — and it's funny. Nobody's in there taking anything too seriously. So it's really easy work.

You've got jobs coming up playing Richard Pryor in a Pryor movie and starring in the "Uncle Buck" TV show. Is it daunting taking on real-life people and such established characters?

You know, when I get approached with these things I just do me. There's such a new generation out there that are just so lost in the sauce when it comes to culture and who our

icons were, you just have to entertain them. One thing about it is, I'm Mike Epps, I'm an icon, I'm a legend myself, so I'm always bringing me to the table. So when I bring me to the table, it's like, guess what? People are coming to see me portray something.



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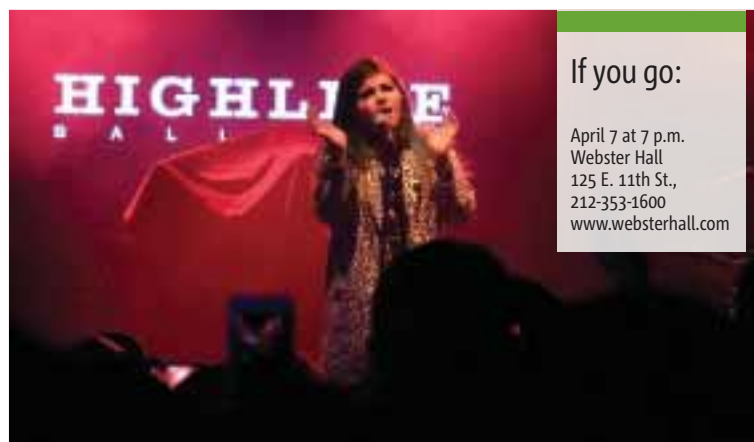
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Taylor Swift says Phoebe Ryan's "Mine" will make your life "more awesome." GETTY IMAGES

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Phoebe Ryan gets the Taylor Swift seal of approval

The singer-songwriter
is a fan of her fans.

RACHEL RACZKA
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Phoebe Ryan is currently on tour with Charlie Puth, and his fans were quick to embrace the "Chronic" singer-songwriter in their ... er, enthusiastic embrace.

"They're super intense," laughs Ryan from a midtown stop in Ohio. "But it's all been so positive. They're intense with love."

The 24-year-old has been lucky in the business of finding the support of big name stars' sign offs. In October, Taylor Swift tweeted out a handwritten list of "Songs That Will Make Your Life More Awesome" with Ryan's "Mine" in the No. 2 spot.

"People have to remind me that it actually happened," the L.A.-based artist admits. "I thought maybe I was crazy and that just happened in my head. I can't believe she took the time to listen to my song, and then write it out on a piece of paper that she liked it. That blows my mind."

Ryan, who studied audio engineering and sound production at NYU, dropped her five-track EP "Mine" on Columbia last summer, and

she plans to release her first studio full-length in the near future. Her raspy, dance-friendly vocals have drawn comparisons to the likes of Tove Lo and Ellie Goulding and her new single, "Chronic," just got the Knocks' treatment, soon to be released at a later date. She chats about her new single, and how she keeps her hair so great and green.

So what's the deal with "Chronic"? Is it about a happy love or a sad love? I can't decide.

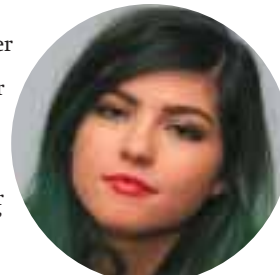
I would say that it's not negative, it's more of a positive thing. It's fun, but not like puppy love. It's totally the honeymoon period.

What's your writing process like?

Some days I'll start with a specific word or concept, but then some days I'll write all the melodies and fill in the words later. I get bored pretty easily so I have to constantly entertain myself.

Is there anything you always bring on tour with you?

I guess it's less about what I bring and more about what I acquire. I've been getting some amazing stuff lately. Like I got this Nascar jacket from a gas station in Louisiana.



A gas station?

Gas station fashion is real. And I went to an aquarium in Cincinnati and got T-shirts and jewelry. I'm wearing a T-shirt with a giant squid on it now.

Speaking of style — how do you keep your hair so green?

I feel like people would be surprised by how little maintenance I do for my hair. The dye I use is just super strong and it's bonded to my hair because I've been using it for years.

Which kind is it?

I used Manic Panic when I first started dying my hair but that would wash out in three days so I use a way more permanent dye now. My hair dresser was like, "If you use this, there's no going back." And I said, "Yes! I need to be green forever!" It's by Goldwell and I have to sneakily buy it on Amazon because you're not supposed to be able to if you're not a professional [hairstylist]. I stock up when I can find it.

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What we don't talk about when we talk about love

"The Golden Condom" explores intimate relationships in various forms — and how to move on after extreme heartbreak.



EMILY LAURENCE
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Sometimes, when someone you love hurts you so deeply that it nearly destroys you, it's difficult to talk about it. You feel isolated and humiliated. Fortunately that is not the case with psychoanalyst Dr. Jeanne Safer. At least, it's not the case anymore.

In her sixth book, "The Golden Condom," Safer investigates the sides of love we don't often talk about through her own deeply personal experiences, as well as some of her patients' stories.

Reliving a painful past

It wasn't a lover who sparked the idea for "The

Golden Condom," but being abandoned by a friend. "It felt just like a rejection from a passionate love affair from my youth," Safer tells us.

The experience led her to reread her diary from 1967, when she was 19 and in love with someone who didn't feel the same — and treated her terribly. "Rereading my diary was excruciating, but I wanted to show people how I got there, what it was like, and how I got past it," she says.

The other stories in "The Golden Condom" are similarly intense. There's a woman who comes completely undone after her husband leaves her, and even one about a man incapable of



Jeanne Safer's book "The Golden Condom" is out today. SUSAN SHAPIRO

love at all. But each story also brings a sort-of hope, serving as a comfort.

Beyond romance

Safer's epiphany that friendship can stir the same kind of love as a romance led her to seek out other relationships that we often don't recognize can have the same emotional significance, such as mentor-protégé and love after a partner dies. "Love is so profound and it's so interwoven into

our lives in ways we don't even realize," Safer says.

Not all of the stories are about a love gone bad. One essay about a widow's love for her late husband is downright moving. But the essays about a spoiled love — be it a friendship, romantic partner or some other form — are perhaps the most impassioned.

The hardest part

So often we hold on to a relationship longer than

we should. "It's because we're so desperate to be loved," Safer says. She tells us letting go is the hardest part of healing, but it's crucial to moving on.

"[Acknowledging] that someone doesn't love you, and you can't make them, is when real insight begins," she says. "It's devastating, and you have to let yourself grieve that. But it's the key to liberation and freeing yourself to love someone who loves you back."



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Answers to all your infant vaccination questions

April is National Infant Immunization Month, and there is no better time to get the facts.



EMILY LAURENCE
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An antivaccine movement erupted in 1998 when scientist Andrew Wakefield published a study linking immunizations and autism. A documentary on the subject, "Vaxxed: From Cover Up To Catastrophe" was blocked from screening at this month's Tribeca Film Festival by co-founder Robert De Niro after he reviewed the movie with scientific professionals, according to The New York Times. Wakefield's findings were retracted in 2010, but many parents are still confused about the need for vaccinations. And even if you are

completely on board with getting your child vaccinated, chances are you still have questions. We talk to Dr. Paul Offit, director of the Vaccine Education Center at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, professor of pediatrics at the University of Pennsylvania and author of six books addressing the topic.

Are all the vaccines equally important?
There's still measles and mumps in the U.S. But what about something like polio that we haven't had in the U.S. since the 1970s? People with polio virus are still coming from other countries, and only one out of 200 people with polio actually has symptoms. Most people asymptotically shed the virus. Another reason is because you might travel to a country where polio is still occurring.

For full list of all the vaccines your child needs, go to CDC.gov. **ISTOCK**



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Have you seen any diseases come back because of the antivaccination movement?
Yes! We eliminated measles from the U.S. in 2000. But in 2014, we had about 680 cases of measles. Last year, there were about 190 cases. If we continue this trend, more could come back, such as rubella, a virus similar to Zika.

How important is it to stick to the recommended timetable for infant immunization?
It's a burdensome schedule. But it's a well-tested schedule. To make up your own schedule is to wander into a world where you don't know if the [results] will work the same.

What do you tell

parents who are skeptical about vaccinating?
People assume if you do nothing, that it is a risk-free choice. It's not. In the case of not vaccinating, it's a choice to take a different and more serious risk. It's OK to be skeptical, but if there is data answering your concerns, you should believe it. I work at a place where not a year goes

by where we don't see a child die from a vaccine-preventable disease, invariably because the parents choose not to vaccinate. It's burdensome to get all the shots, but if you want to understand why it's important, just spend some time with parent advocacy groups. They all tell the same story: "I can't believe this happened to me."

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Postpartum depression can now be predicted before giving birth

Every year, approximately 3 million women in the U.S. experience feelings of extreme sadness and anxiety after childbirth, according to Mayo Clinic. Postpartum depression has nothing to do with not loving your child or not wanting to be a mom, and everything to do with your body's hormones.

A small but noteworthy new study published in the latest issue of Women's Mental Health shows promising strides in early detection of postpartum depression so new moms can be treated sooner and more effectively.

The study, conducted at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine, analyzed 66 healthy pregnant women who were not depressed. The scientists monitored the women, studying their hormone levels throughout their pregnancies and six weeks after giving birth.



Symptoms of postpartum depression include feeling extreme anxiety and depression in the days, weeks and months after giving birth. iStock

Of the 66 women, 13 experienced postpartum depression. The same 13 women all had higher oxytocin levels during their pregnancy. If this correlation is confirmed, moms-to-be could get help before their babies are even born. When doctors see oxytocin levels spike, they can implement a treatment plan to keep things more balanced.

Oxytocin plays a big role throughout preg-

nancy, from triggering nurturing feelings to stimulating contractions during childbirth, according to Childbirth Connection.

While more research still needs to be done about how doctors can better monitor and keep oxytocin levels balanced, this study is a small but significant step in helping the one in seven new moms who experience postpartum depression.

EMILY LAURENCE

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GOLF JUST ISN'T THE SAME WITHOUT TIGER

He will be missed.

Last week, Tiger Woods made the announcement that he will miss the 2016 Masters. In his statement, he said he is not "physically ready" to compete in the first major tournament of the season and there is still "no timetable" to return to competitive golf. He has not won a major since the U.S. Open in 2008 and is recovering from yet another back surgery, his third. He is now 40 years old and the sport that he revolutionized misses him.

Woods is stuck on 14 major victories and 79 PGA Tour wins over the course of his remarkable career, but it was supposed to be better. By this stage of his career, many smart analysts would have bet a lot of money on Woods passing Jack Nicklaus' record of 18 major victories.

We know what transpired in the past — the infidelity, public divorce and embarrassment, physical breakdowns and mental meltdowns. It is what it is and we all witnessed his public shaming.

We all witnessed it, each and every moment, and stood in shock and awe as one of the biggest athletes this planet has ever seen had their personal life spread across every newspaper

MARC MALUSIS

OPINION

Marc Malusis is a columnist for Metro New York and a host on WFAN and CBS Sports Radio.
@marcmalusis



in this country for all of us to read.

But I remember the excitement I felt when Tiger turned pro with the simple phrase, "Hello World," in August of 1996. He changed the game. He changed the way it was played, who played it and how those who played it took care of themselves. He is the greatest

golfer that I have ever seen and will probably ever see in my lifetime.

The sport is in decent hands these days, I guess. Certainly, players like Jason Day and Jordan Spieth and Rory McIlroy are brilliant in their own right. They are just not Tiger.

I miss the excitement of what was next. I miss the great putt and the nervous anticipation and the loud cheers that reached peaks when you knew Tiger was on the prowl. I even miss the staredowns when someone would take a picture during his backswing. I know he cursed and he got angry and was not always the best sport, but I miss all of that too.

I miss when his former caddie Steve Williams would get into it with spectators. I miss the fist pump after a made putt. I miss the "Sunday Red." I miss the debate of "Tiger or the field" in a respective tournament or major.

I miss when you would read about Augusta National and other courses Tiger-proofing their courses because of his physical domination and the way he was able to drive the golf ball. When there is talk of Azaleas and Amen Corner this



Tiger Woods will not play at this week's Masters tournament. GETTY IMAGES

week at Augusta, there will be no talk of Tiger.

He has not won the Masters since 2005, so it has been quite some time this famous course has heard the Tiger roars. I hope

one time we get it again, but not this week, not this year.

Maybe next year, and for golf fans that is what we have been left with with Woods — a lot of maybes. At one time there was

certainty with Woods, now nothing is certain. When Augusta ushers in spring this week, the excitement for the tournament remains, but the excitement that Woods created will be missed.

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LeBron-led superteam coming to NY?

The odds of where LeBron James' proposed superteam will land.



MATT BURKE
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The NBA is a fast-moving world.

Two years ago if you had told the average NBA fan that LeBron James would be back in Cleveland in 2016, that would've been a stunner. If you had told them at that time that Stephen Curry would be leading a team that was poised to break the Bulls' all-time single-season win record — that would've qualified as a shocker as well.

So who knows what the league landscape will look like in 2018? Hell, who knows what it will look like by this coming Fourth of July?

With LeBron dropping hints left and right that he wants to form a superteam with "the

Brotherhood" (Dwyane Wade, Carmelo Anthony and Chris Paul), here is a look at the odds of where that superteam would be constructed:

Cleveland 7-1

As hated as LeBron was when he bolted Cleveland in favor of Miami six years ago, that would be nothing compared to the amount of vitriol he'd face not just in Ohio — but worldwide — if he ditched the Cavs again. LeBron is a lot of things but he is no dummy. His brand would be ruined if he left Cleveland again without delivering on his promise of a title. And if you haven't noticed — LeBron cares a whole hell of a lot about his "brand."

The Cavs also have flexibility that the other teams on this list don't have. They would be dealing from a position of power when it comes to potential blockbuster trades. Kyrie Irving for Carmelo? Kyrie for Chris



The challenge of winning a title in New York may be appealing to LeBron James. GETTY IMAGES

Paul? Kevin Love to New York? Kevin Love to his hometown of LA? Kevin Love to Boston in that crazy three-way deal that was rumored a few months back?

New York 10-1

The Knicks will have cap

space going forward, around \$20 million to \$30 million this summer. That would obviously be a great thing if they were to entertain absorbing the hefty contracts of LeBron (even though he said he'd take a pay cut), Wade and/or Paul. To create this superteam in Manhat-

tan, Phil Jackson would need to part with his most prized possession in Kristaps Porzingis. While the Knicks haven't had a young piece like Porzingis in decades, even the most cynical New York fan would eventually come around to the realization that this brotherhood

superteam would almost guarantee them a trip to the NBA finals for two or three straight seasons. Oh, and there's no way Phil WOULD NOT come down out of the luxury box to coach this team.

Miami 12-1

Would LeBron return to South Beach? The chances are slim but — like previously mentioned — it was once hard to believe LeBron would ever return to Cleveland. Pat Riley has been choosing his words carefully lately in regards to the man he daily referred to as "GOAT." He defended James in January when a report popped up that James, at one time, wanted the Heat to fire Erik Spoelstra. And then there were those pictures of LeBron hanging with Wade in South Beach earlier this month.

The Heat also have some interesting young chips that they could trade to make room.

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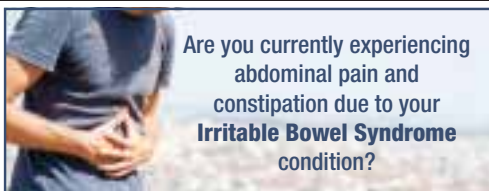
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*additional criteria may apply

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REQUIREMENTS:

- Attend 45 research visits over seven months
- Provide urine samples (weekly)
- Provide blood samples (monthly)
- Bring your HIV medications (monthly)
- Complete interviews (monthly)

COMPENSATION:

You may earn up to \$475 and Metrocards worth over \$245 by completing all research visits. You will also have a 50/50 chance of earning up to an additional \$1320 in gift cards.

LOCATION

The study takes place at the Montefiore Clinical Research Center and Einstein's Division of Substance Abuse clinics, all of which are located in the Bronx.

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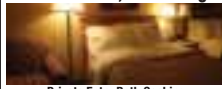
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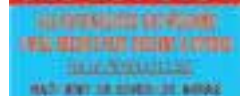
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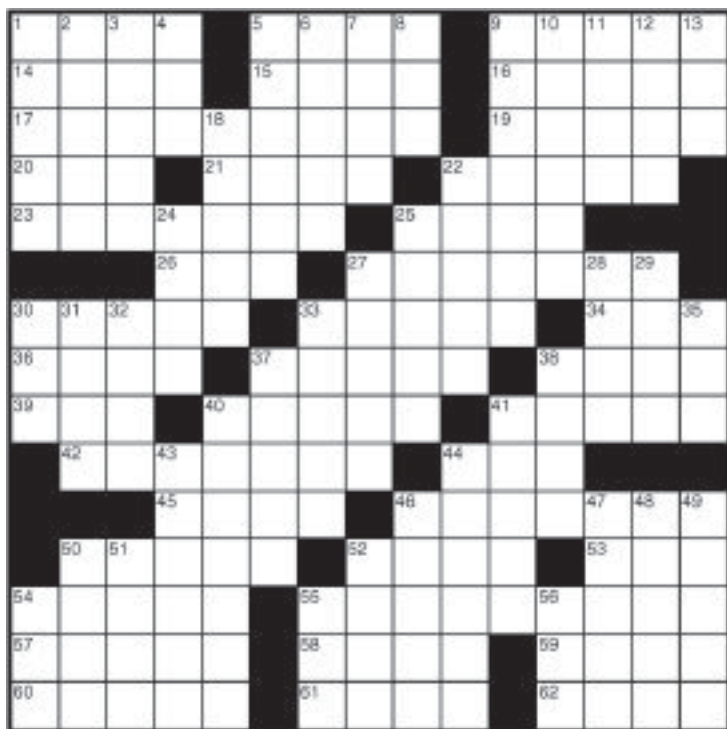
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- 16 Rack up, as debt
- 17 Underwrote
- 19 Sound system
- 20 Here, to monsieur
- 21 Bump or knot
- 22 Luigi's coins of yore
- 23 They go to the wall
- 25 Ricci or Foch
- 26 Bleachers cry
- 27 Thailand's capital
- 30 Ladybug's lunch
- 33 Gives temporarily
- 34 Janitor's tool
- 36 Carpe —!
- 37 Edible lichen
- 38 Tusked animal
- 39 Literary collection
- 40 Piggy bank coin
- 41 Wry humor
- 42 "Enough —!"
- 44 Livy's eggs
- 45 WWW addresses
- 46 Lick a stamp
- 50 Too exacting
- 52 Stun
- 53 Incan treasure

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- 9 News
- 10 Polar parka
- 11 Bruins sch.
- 12 Worn-down pencils
- 13 Attempt
- 18 Golfer Sam —
- 22 Ronstadt or Hunt
- 24 Strait-laced

- 25 Au pair
- 27 Comic Jack —
- 28 "Typee" sequel
- 29 Zen riddle
- 30 Tooth care org.
- 31 — colada
- 32 Make whole
- 33 Touches down
- 35 Snoop
- 37 Powdery
- 38 Bikini halves
- 40 Keep at it
- 41 Leafy vines
- 43 Fullback, at times
- 44 Moving like lava
- 46 Callas or Montessori
- 47 Garden hoppers
- 48 Tennessee — Ford
- 49 Bottle- — dolphin
- 50 Tour de force
- 51 Humerus neighbor
- 52 First light of day
- 54 Tooth pro's deg.
- 55 Qt. parts
- 56 Promise to pay

- 54 Raj headquarters
- 55 Bastille stormers
- 57 Guys like Hamlet
- 58 One of a pair
- 59 Garfield's victim
- 60 Commence
- 61 River hazard
- 62 Not wasted

Down

- 1 Rudimentary
- 2 Humane org.
- 3 Cantata performers
- 4 Biddy
- 5 Polished
- 6 Rounds up
- 7 Shrink's reply (2 wds.)

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easy

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hard

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| | | 4 | 3 | 8 | 6 | | 2 | |
| 8 | | | | 1 | | 6 | | 4 |
| 7 | | | | | 5 | 9 | | |

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Aries Keep your mind on what you are doing and don't let anyone disrupt your plans. You can bring about positive change if you stick to your own devices.



Taurus Your intuition will not let you down. An emotional situation will turn in your favor if you are willing to push it a little harder to get your way.



Gemini Someone will use manipulative tactics to try to undermine you. Be precise in order to avoid misinterpretation. Don't trust anyone to handle your personal matters.



Cancer Your experience will help you handle a situation with clarity. Your insight and ability to find solutions will make you a hero. Romance will highlight your day.



Leo Take a chance and make a change. You'll surprise everyone with your actions, but more importantly, you'll make it clear that you are in charge.



Virgo Pay attention to relationships. Discuss plans thoroughly, leaving no room for misunderstanding. If you are precise, you will have nothing to worry about.



Libra Mixing business with pleasure or letting one interfere with the other will be your downfall. Organization and preparation will be required to avoid criticism.



Scorpio You'll make progress if you incorporate professional or domestic changes that will make your life easier. Convenience and the latest technology or equipment will give you an edge.



Sagittarius Caution must be taken when dealing with people who don't share your beliefs. Spell out exactly what you want or need in order to avoid a misunderstanding or mistake.



Capricorn A day trip or get-together with people you enjoy or admire will lead to new ideas, plans and improvements. Love is emphasized today.



Aquarius Bring about the changes that will help you secure a desired position or provide a chance to hone your skills and make them profitable.



Pisces Use your imagination and make your dreams come true. Express your plans openly and find out who is on board to help. A partnership looks promising. **EUGENIA LAST**

Yesterday's answers



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